

PEGGICHISME KIRKALDY, 1904 (HEMIPTERA HETEROPTERA: LYGAEIDAE): PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE A TYPE SPECIES BY THE USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS.
Z.N.(S.) 2197

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Peggichisme was proposed by Kirkaldy, 1904 (*Entomologist* vol. 37: 280) as a new replacement name for *Davila* Distant, 1893 (*Biol. cent.-Amer. Heteroptera* vol. 1, Suppl.: 394), which was preoccupied by *Davila* Gray, 1853, for a genus of bivalved molluscs. In the original publication Distant described three new species in *Davila*, *D. consanguineus*, *D. concavus* and *D. pallescens* (it is not clear why he gave the first two names masculine terminations), and these were the only originally included species. As was the practice at the time, neither Distant nor Kirkaldy designated a type species for the genus in question. The choice of type species becomes important because of the question of the synonymy of *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904, with *Ozophora* Uhler, 1871 (*Proc. Boston Soc. nat. Hist.*: 102). It is the thesis of the present application that the designations of *Davila concavus* Distant, 1893 (*op. cit.*: 395–396) as type species of *Peggichisme* by Van Duzee, 1916, (*List Hemiptera N. Amer.*: 22) and Sweet, 1967 (*Ann. entomol. Soc. Amer.* Vol. 6: 223) were both in error since the designations in each case were based on specimens of *Davila consanguineus* Distant, 1893 (*op. cit.*: 395), misidentified as *Ozophora concava* (Distant, 1893).

2. Both Slater (1964, *Cat. Lygaeidae World*: 1048) and Van Duzee, 1917 (*Cat. Hemiptera N. Amer.*: 188) attributed the synonymising of *Davila* Distant with *Ozophora* Uhler to Barber (1918, *J. New York entomol. Soc.* vol. 26: 53), though Barber had merely noted that Uhler, 1894, had placed *Davila* as a synonym of *Ozophora*. Actually Uhler, 1894 (*Proc. zool. Soc. London* for 1894: 186) only said that *Davila consanguineus* Distant was congeneric, if not conspecific, with *Ozophora burmeisteri* (Guérin), which is a specific, not a generic synonymy. Therefore the formal synonymising of *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904 with *Ozophora* Uhler, 1871, should be attributed to Van Duzee, 1916.

3. Van Duzee, 1916 (*List Hemiptera N. Amer.*: 22) also synonymised *Peggichisme consanguineus* (Distant) with *Ozophora picturata* Uhler, 1871 (the type species, by monotypy, of *Ozophora*), an action clearly resulting from specimens of *O. picturata* and other closely related species being misidentified as *Ozophora consanguinea* by Uhler (Blatchley, 1926) and Van Duzee himself, as evidenced by determination labels in several collections. Sweet,

1967, raised *consanguineus* Distant from synonymy with *O. picturata*, placed it together with *concavus* Distant in *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904, and left *pallescens* Distant, 1893, in *Ozophora* Uhler, 1871.

4. It should be understood that the species of the OZOPHORINI of the New World are very similar in superficial coloration and appearance, and would be especially difficult to recognise from the illustrations in the *Biologia centrali-Americana*. I have been able to study the type series of Distant's species of *Davila* in the light of Scudder's 1967 lectotype designations and find, as Scudder noted (1967, *Bull. brit. Mus. (nat. Hist.) Entomol.*, vol. 20 (6): 267) that the syntypes of *concava* include representatives of four species. This makes the confusion about the identity of *concava* understandable. Most of the specimens in museums that had been identified as *O. concava* (Distant) by Barber and previous authors, including Van Duzee, were actually specimens of *O. consanguinea* (Distant), as were the specimens I examined when I elevated *Peggichisme*.

5. This is, therefore, clearly a case of a misidentified type species. Specimens of *D. consanguineus* Distant were not present in the syntype series of *D. concavus* Distant. Scudder, 1967, also recognised the specific distinctness of *D. consanguineus*. It is therefore my considered judgement, based on specimens of or near *O. picturata* Uhler being misidentified as *Davila consanguineus* Distant by Uhler, Van Duzee and Barber, and specimens of *Peggichisme consanguinea* (Distant) being similarly misidentified as *O. concava* (Distant), that when Van Duzee selected *Davila concavus* Distant, 1893, as the type species of *Peggichisme*, he actually had in mind or before him specimens of *D. consanguineus* Distant, 1893, unfortunately misidentified as *D. concavus*. Furthermore, Van Duzee probably would not in any case have selected *D. consanguineus* as type species because he erroneously considered that quite distinct species as synonymous with *Ozophora picturata* Uhler.

6. Accepting *Peggichisme* [= *Davila*] *consanguinea* (Distant, 1893) as the correct name for the specimens misidentified as *Ozophora concava* (Distant, 1893) would clear the way for a change in the type species designation that would conserve the name *Peggichisme* and avoid the need to propose a new generic name. *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy would then become the generic name for the neotropical species assemblage distinguished from *Ozophora* Uhler by its sharp, narrowly explanate lateral pronotal margins, notched humeral pronotal angles, and broad, relatively declivant head with large eyes. Also by such action, *Ozophora concava* (Distant, 1893), as a close relative of *O. picturata* Uhler, 1871, would simply remain in the genus *Ozophora* Uhler, 1891.

7. I accordingly ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type species hitherto made for the nominal genus *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904, and, having done so, to designate *Davila consanguineus* [sic] Distant, 1893, as type species of that genus;
- (2) to place the generic name *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904 (gender: feminine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Davila consanguineus* [sic] Distant, 1893, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *consanguineus* Distant, 1893, as published in the binomen *Davila consanguineus* [sic] (specific name of type species of *Peggichisme* Kirkaldy, 1904, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

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